

Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

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R 210455Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 702

INFO AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

AMEMBASSY KATHMANDU

AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, UN, IN, PK

SUBJECT: ASIAN SEAT ON UN SECURITY COUNCIL

REF: STATE 133599

1. ACCORDING TO MFA DIRECTOR (UN) MUNIR AKRAM, PAKISTAN WILL PURSUE ITS CANDIDACY FOR A NON-PERMANENT SEAT ON THE AN SECURITY COUNCIL RIGHT UP TO A VOTE BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY AND WILL NOT DROP OUT OF THE RACE EVEN IF A MAJORITY OF THE ASIAN REGIONAL CAUCUS FAVORS INDIA. IN DISCUSSING ISSUE WITH EMBASSY OFFICER AND VISITING NEA/PAK OFFICER PECK, AKRAM CLAIMED PAK CONFIDENCE IN SUPPORT FROM MUSLIM NATIONS WHICH WOULD OFFSET INDIA'S BLOCK OF "PRO-SOCIALIST" BACKERS. PAKS HE SAID, FEEL INDIANS PLAYED DIRTY POOL IN ASKING FOR SUPPORT OF ARAB LEAGUE STATES BEFORE ANNOUNCING THEIR CANDIDACY. HOWEVER, ARABS HAVE NOT COMMITTED THEMSELVES, AKRAM ASSERTED, AND PAKS ARE LOBBYING HARD FOR THEIR SUPPORT. (PAKISTAN TIMES ARTICLE JUNE 18 REPEATED THIS LINE).

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2. PAKISTAN, ACCORDING TO AKRAM, ONLY ENTERED RACE AFTER ITS PREFERRED CHOICES, IRAN, NEPAL OR SRI LANKA CHOSE NOT TO RUN. AKRAM OBSERVED THAT IRAN'S NOT WANTING TO GET INVOLVED IN THE SINO-SOVIET RIVALRY WAS THE PROBABLY REASON FOR HER NOT RUNNING. NEPAL AND SRI LANKA, HE SAID, ARE NOW PRIVATELY LINING UP BEHIND GOP'S CANDIDACY. NOTE: THIS, FOR NEPAL, CONTRADICTS WHAT INDIAN CHARGE GONSALVES TOLD SECRETARY SISCO (REFTEL).

3. GOP, LIKE GOI (REFTEL, PARA 3) DID NOT INITIALLY REGARD PHILIPPINES AS SERIOUS CANDIDATE FOR SECURITY COUNCIL. AKRAM MAINTAINS, THAT PAKISTAN THOUGHT PILOPINOS, WHOSE REAL GOAL WAS ECSOC COUNCIL, WERE MERELY USING IT AS A BARGAINING CHIP. NOW, HOWEVER, GOP FEELS PHILIPPINES MAY TAKE ADVANTAGE OF OPPORTUNITY PRESENTED BY INDO-PAK CONTEST TO MAKE SERIOUS RACE AS COMPROMISE CANDIDATE. GOP, AKRAM IMPLIED, COULD ACCEPT PHILIPPINES IN SEAT BUT THINK THAT THEY COULD NO WIN EVEN IF GOP TRIES TO THROW THEM ITS SUPPORTERS. MOST MUSLIM STATES COULD NOT BACK THE PHILIPPINES TODAY, GIVEN MANILA'S CURRENT MINORITY PROBLEM, AKRAM SAID, AND WITHOUT THE MUSLIM STATES, THE PHILIPPINES COULD NOT HOPE TO DEFEAT INDIA.
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